

A1: Assignment #1
Student and Research Essay
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Course: MGT 360
Title: Management and Organizational Behavior (3 units)

“Never doubt that a small number of people can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has.”

---Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

Goal:

I want you to reflect briefly on a couple of issues and I want to capture a small writing sample from each of you. This is a simple, straightforward assignment.

Essay part 1:

In the first essay, I want you to reflect upon what makes you a student. Is it because you are enrolled? ...because you like learning? ...you want to get a better job? ...you parents are bugging you? Or? The score for this assignment does not depend on which reason best describes your student status. I want you to write several sentences that clearly explain to me your reasoning on what makes you a student.

Essay part 2:

In the second essay, I want you to choose a very difficult organizational problem (or if you can't think of one, an individual or societal problem). Write two or three short paragraphs. The first paragraph should briefly describe the problem and the next paragraph(s) should briefly describe how you would go about studying possible solutions to the problem. Again, the score for this assignment does not depend on which problem you pick. I am more interested in how you would go about studying (researching) the issue.

Length:

Each part of the essay is to be no more than one page in length.

Format:

The style requirements of both parts of the essay are as follows: 12-point Times Roman font, double line spacing, and approximately 1 inch page margins. Do not justify the text to the right margin and you may indent the first line of each paragraph. The first three lines on each page should be left-justified and look as follows:

Terry Student, MGT 360, <due date>
Assignment #1
Essay part 1 (or part 2)

Please double-check the spelling, grammar and punctuation before you turn in the paper. Also, I recommend starting the essay as soon as possible, letting it “sit” for a day, and then coming back to it for re-writing. Such a writing strategy enables the best results.

Performance Measurement:

The scoring rubric for this assignment is as follows:

- 1 - assignment turned in at the beginning of class
- 2 - answered the question
- 1 - no more than one spelling error
- 1 - no more than one grammar or punctuation error